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December 19, 1995

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

STRADER NAMED OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

CHARLESTON -- Gayle Gilbert Strader of Charleston has been named the 1995 Outstanding Alumnus of the School of Family and Consumer Sciences at Eastern Illinois University.

The award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated in his/her professional and personal life, involvement in and contributions to the field of family and consumer sciences at local, state and national levels. Participation in community activities and service to others are additional criteria that are used in selecting the award recipient.

The monetary award and plaque that accompany this recognition are made possible from the Mary Ruth Swope Fund for Excellence. Swope was dean of the School of Home Economics, and upon her retirement, a fund was established with the contributions of family and friends to honor her and bring recognition to the family and consumer sciences program at Eastern.

Strader graduated from Eastern in 1958 with a bachelor of science in

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STRADER

education degree with a concentration in home economics and vo-technical education.

She has taught at the university in various capacities since 1965 and is currently an associate professor of family and consumer sciences and also works as a broker associate with RE/MAX Premier in Charleston.

At Eastern, she has advised hundreds of students in the Student Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, formerly the Student Home Economics Association, and was one of 40 individuals selected to participate in the university's Student Assistance Program designed to provide students with trained, concerned persons to whom they may go for help with a wide range of problems.

Her university service also includes the Council on Teacher Education and numerous campus and school committees. She has been recognized for her teaching and service with a number of Faculty Excellence Awards and the Livingston C. Lord Distinguished Service Award. She also is listed in Who's Who in the Midwest.

Outside of Eastern, Strader has been very involved with the Future Homemakers of America (FHA-HERO), beginning as a high school teacher at Lovington. She has been a member of the American and Illinois Home Economics Association/American and Illinois Association of Family and Consumer Sciences for more than 30 years and the Illinois Consumer Education Association for more than 25 years, having been a charter member. She currently serves on the State Board of Directors for both of these organizations.

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Since 1975, Strader has made more than 300 presentations at local, regional and state meetings on topics ranging from retirement housing to dress for success.

She was a member of the Attorney General's Advisory Council and helped publish The Consumer Protection Resource Unit, which was provided to every high school consumer education teacher in Illinois. She also served on the North Central Evaluation Team for Arcola High School and other area schools and has been a member of the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Council.

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NOTE TO EDITOR (Arcola Record-Herald): Gayle Strader is the daughter of Lowell Gilbert of Arcola and the late Modesta Gilbert.